

# **BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**Monday, July 18, 2011**

**Mt. Hope High School Cafeteria**

### **Present**

**Subcommittee: John Bento and Diana Campbell**

**School Committee, Administration and Staff: Karen Lynch, Marjorie McBride (6:10), Melinda Thies (6:07), Mario Andrade and Pauline Silva**

**John Bento chaired the meeting in the absence of Bill O'Dell and called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to approve the minutes to the June 20, 2011 meeting and executive session; John Bento seconded.**

**Diane request an edit: Diana shared information she heard that Hasbro is may be bringing in 800 new jobs next year and suggested that many of the employees' families will could move into Bristol. The motion to approve as amended passed by a vote of 2 to 0.**

**MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to seal the minutes to the June**

**20, 2011 executive session; John Bento seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 2 to 0.**

### **Asset Protection**

**Pauline Silva reported RIDE requested the District submit a list of the immediate health and safety concerns for the next 18 months, which SMMA developed (attached) and which Joe daSilva will present to the Board of Regents on July 21. The costs are estimated and include 20% of soft costs.**

**Items 1, 4 and 6 are due to the erosion and leak at the high school; the renovation of the girls' locker room last year had nothing to do with this problem. SMMA will arrange for a forensic engineer to address the diversion of the onsite stream that is causing the erosion before any repairs are done. The asbestos at Mt. Hope and Hugh Cole, items 3 and 12, are not an immediate issue if the tiles are not disturbed in any way. Housing aid reimbursement will be at the rate of 66%.**

### **School Lunch Prices**

**Pauline explained that our average lunch price must be equal to the federal reimbursement; at \$2.50 we are in violation of federal law. Diana thought the idea behind this mandate could be to encourage better, more nutritious food. Marj feels this is unconscionable and we**

must let the public know we have no choice. John pointed out that we would stand to lose \$.5M and should reinforce the campaign to parents for free and reduced lunch. Students purchase their lunch with a “credit card”, all of them looking the same; unlike in the past, the only person who knows who is on a free or reduced lunch is the person behind the counter. The application process is completely confidential. The stigmatism associated with free and reduced lunch should not be a factor; Pauline will draft a letter to parents explaining the confidentiality factor, that this is an indicator for a gateway to funding for the District, and that the income guidelines have gone up and families should check it out. The letter goes home the first day of school and will be posted on our website.

**MOTION:** Diana Campbell motioned to approve the increase in school lunch prices from \$2.25 to \$2.50 for elementary and from \$2.50 to \$2.75 for middle and high schools, and to forward the recommendation to the full Committee for approval. John Bento seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 2 to 0.

### **East Bay Business Managers' Food Service Bid**

Pauline reported the business managers of the East Bay (Bristol Warren, Barrington, East Providence, Little Compton, Middletown, Tiverton and Portsmouth), with RIDE approval, joined together to bid out as a group; Chartwells was the best bidder with the best guarantee; this is the second renewal done this way.

**MOTION:** Diana Campbell motioned to approve the East Bay Business Managers' Food Service bid award to Chartwells and to forward the recommendation to the full Committee for approval. John Bento seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 2 to 0.

### **FY 12 Budget**

The categorical aid has been received (approximately \$514,000), which was unbudgeted and will be assigned after a number of unknowns are determined. The use of ARRA funds will expire and internal shifts have been made to assure no money is left unspent. Melinda and Pauline have been planning for next year's pension increase.

### **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** At 6:30 PM Diana Campbell motioned to adjourn. John Bento seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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